AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, replace the paragraph beginning on line 4 with the following amended paragraph:

--The present invention relates to a system for making purchases at a shopping ~~centre~~ center of the self-service type.--

Page 1, replace the paragraph beginning on line 6 with the following amended paragraph:

--In shopping ~~centres~~ centers of the self-service type, the products are generally arranged on shelves which can be directly accessed by the customers. The customers serve themselves and then pay for the purchases made at a cash till situation at the exit from the shopping ~~centre~~ center.--

Page 1, replace the paragraph beginning on line 11 with the following amended paragraph:

--A problem which is encountered by customers in these shopping ~~centres~~ centers, in particular if the latter are very large in size (as in the case of supermarkets), consists in the difficulty of identifying the position of each product to be purchased. This problem becomes even greater in the case of customers who do not regularly frequent the shopping ~~centre~~ center; however, this problem is also experienced by regular customers, for example whenever the arrangement of the products on sale is varied.--

Page 1, replace the paragraph beginning on line 21 with the following amended paragraph:

--A known solution consists in using signs which indicate, for each group of shelves, the category of products arranged on them. The signs are generally hung from the ceiling along a central corridor in the shopping ~~centre~~ center.--

Page 2, replace the paragraph beginning on line 1 with the following amended paragraph:

--This solution, however, is not particularly satisfactory. In particular, finding the products to be purchased in any case remains a difficult task for the customer, who is obliged to walk slowly around the shopping ~~centre~~ center, looking upwards all the time in order to check the information shown on the signs. The product categories used must be necessarily generic, with the result that the customer is not always able to immediately associate the product to be purchased with the corresponding product category. Moreover, this system does not allow the position of certain products which do not fall within a well-defined product category to be identified.--

Page 2, replace the paragraph beginning on line 14 with the following amended paragraph:

--These drawbacks result in a considerable amount of time being wasted by the customer in order to find the products to be purchased. Very frequently the customer realizes that he/she has forgotten one or more products only when in the

vicinity of the shopping ~~centre~~ center exit so that he/she is obliged to return to the entry area in order to look for these products. In some cases this even results in purchase of the forgotten products being abandoned by the customer. Moreover, the above mentioned difficulties constitute a significant obstacle which dissuades new customers from using the shopping ~~centre~~ center.--

Page 3, replace the paragraph beginning on line 3 with the following amended paragraph:

--In short, the present invention envisages a system for making purchases by a customer at a shopping ~~centre~~ center of the self-service type, comprising means for storing the position of each product on sale in the ~~centre~~ center and means for providing a shopping list of products to be purchased; the system furthermore comprises means for determining the position of each product to be purchased and means for providing the customer with an indication of the products to be purchased in an ordered sequence according to a path inside the ~~centre~~ center.--

Page 3, replace the paragraph beginning on line 13 with the following amended paragraph:

--Moreover, the present invention also proposes two corresponding methods for making purchases at the shopping ~~centre~~ center, as well as a computer program and a corresponding product program for implementing one of these methods under the control of a shopping ~~centre~~ center computer.--

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Page 5, replace the paragraph beginning on line 15 with the following amended paragraph:

--Similar considerations apply in the case of a hypermarket (or any other shopping ~~centre~~ center of the self-service type) or in the case where the supermarket has a different structure, for example with the shelves arranged in another way and with a different path along the shelves, etc.--

Page 17, replace the paragraph beginning on line 15 with the following amended paragraph:

--More generally, the system according to the present invention is used for making purchases by a customer at a shopping ~~centre~~ center of the self-service type; the system comprises means for storing the position of each product on sale in the ~~centre~~ center, means for providing a shopping list of products to be purchased, means for determining the position of each product to be purchased and means for providing the customer with an indication of the products to be purchased in an ordered sequence according to a path inside the ~~centre~~ center.--

Page 17, replace the paragraph beginning on line 25 and bridging pages 17 and 18 with the following amended paragraph:

--The solution according to the present invention makes it extremely simple to locate, inside the ~~centre~~ center, each product to be purchased as well as particular products which do not fall within a well-defined product category.--

Page 18, replace the paragraph beginning on line 5 with the following amended paragraph:

--This allows the time required by the customer to carry out his shopping to be reduced drastically since the path followed by the customer inside the ~~centre~~ center is optimized. Moreover, the solution described above avoids the situation where the customer forgets and therefore does not purchase a certain product.--

Page 18, replace the paragraph beginning on line 11 with the following amended paragraph:

--The structure according to the invention also overcomes one of the main obstacles which prevent new customers from using the ~~centre~~ center.--